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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 153470
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 /059 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:GDESANTILLANA/MD
APPROVED BY ARA/CAR:ACHEWITT
USOAS:ITRAGEN (SUBS)
----------100665 161555Z /45
O 161534Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 153470

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, PINT, DR, US, OAS

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR MCGEE ON DOMINICAN ELECTIONS

REF: STATE 145949

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR MCGEE AT JUNE 7 MEETING OF THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL:

QTE: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. I WANT TO COMPLIMENT THE AMBASSADOR FROM VENEZUELA FOR THIS SPLENDID STATEMENT ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECENT ELECTION PROCESS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. MY GOVERNMENT JOINS VERY STRONGLY IN THAT SALUTE. AS A SOME-TIME STUDENT OF SUCH EVENTS, I COULD NOT HELP BUT REFLECT HERE THIS MORNING THAT THERE WERE MANY TEMPTING MOMENTS IN OUR OWN COUNTRY'S HISTORY WHEN SIMILAR CRISES WERE CONFRONTED. AND YET, WITH GOOD LUCK AND GOOD SENSE, THOSE CRISES WERE SURMOUNTED. WE ARE
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ALSO MINDFUL THAT CULTURES AND COUNTRIES AND POLITICS ARE DIFFERENT. BUT THERE COMES A TIME WHEN THE TEST IS RUN; AND, IN MY OWN VIEW, THAT TEST WAS RUN IN THIS RECENT ELECTION IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. IN HISTORY ONE SEES PARALLELS OF THOSE TESTING TIMES. THOUGH THE TIMES MAY VARY OR THE SPAN OF TIME MAY BE LONGER IN SOME CASES THAN IN OTHERS, WHEN IT HAPPENS IT IS NO LESS SIGNIFICANT.

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AND THAT SIGNIFICANCE WAS OBVIOUS TO THE WATCHING WORLD
IN THIS RECENT ELECTION IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

I THINK THAT HISTORY WILL RECORD PRESIDENT BALAGUER AS
THE FATHER OF THE NEW DEMOCRACY. THIS WAS A DIFFICULT
MOMENT. IT WAS A SIGNIFICANT TEST. IT WAS MET WITH
RESPONSIBILITY AND HIGH HONOR. BECAUSE OF THAT, I
THINK ALL OF US HERE, WHO SHARE CONCERNS FOR REPRESENTA-
TIVE SYSTEMS AMONG OUR PEOPLE, RECOGNIZE THAT THIS WAS
INDEED A LANDMARK--A SIGNIFICANT CHAPTER--IN THE GROWTH
OF THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLES. MY GOVERNMENT, TOO, SALUTES
THE SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLE AND THE COURSE OF EVENTS IN THE
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. UNQTE. NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 16 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: GDESANTILLANA/MD
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Film Number: D780252-0250
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To: SANTO DOMINGO
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